

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 24 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 4, 5, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishii et al. (US 5,280,641).

Claim 1, as amended, recites the feature of a control circuit that controls the capacitance value of said variable capacitor by controlling on/off action of said first switching unit according to the resistance value of said variable resistor. Applicants respectfully submit that Ishii does not disclose or suggest such a feature.

In particular, regarding Ishii, Applicants note that this reference discloses that a tuning frequency is determined by a secondary coil 32 and a capacitor 64 of a variable capacitance diode 62 (see col. 4, lines 49-54).

Thus, while Ishii discloses that a tuning frequency is determined by the secondary coil and the capacitor 64 of the variable capacitor diode 62, Applicants respectfully submit that Ishii does not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted feature recited in amended claim 1 of a control circuit that controls the capacitance value of said variable capacitor by controlling on/off action of said first switching unit according to the resistance value of said variable resistor.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is patentable over Ishii, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 4, 5, 22 and 24 depend from claim 1 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 16, Applicants note that this claim has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 so as to recite that the capacitance value of said variable capacitor is controlled according to the resistance value of said variable resistor.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Ishii does not disclose, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted feature recited in amended claim 16.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 16 is patentable over Ishii, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 16 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 5, 2010